



Church of Christ

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Bridg City, TX 9/29/82

Amahua, TX 3/27/98 7/4/99
KSHN 3/3/02

DEAR FRIEND:

We, the members of the church of Christ, wish to welcome you into our community.

We extend to you an invitation to visit with us in our worship services.

Our weekly periods of worship and study are:

SUNDAY

Bible Classes..... 8:30 A. M.
Morning Worship..... 9:30 A. M.
Evening Worship..... 6:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Bible Class..... 9:30 A. M.
Worship & Bible Study..... 7:00 P. M.

A welcome awaits your attendance. If we may be of assistance to you feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

Members of the
church of Christ

Pharisees, The Spirit of the

THE SPIRIT OF THE PHARISEES

INTRODUCTION:

1. Christ was born a Jew, under the law of Moses, lived an Israelite, died under the law.
2. At the time of Christ the Jews had divided themselves into different sects, groups, ~~sects~~ *sects*.
3. Sadducees, Pharisees, Herodians, ~~Scribes~~, etc.
4. These sects were not living in obedience to even the Law.
5. They had set themselves up, and in many ways had made themselves the standard.
6. Christ used very severe language upon numerous occasions in rebuke of these.
7. In this lesson we look to the SPIRIT OF THE PHARISEES: *attitudes*
What made Christ's rebuke so severe of these people????
What was their true spirit????
8. *Should be self-evident that we do not conduct ourselves as they. Warnings against being as the Pharisees.*

BODY:

1. SELF-RIGHTEOUS. *opposite of humility*
 1. Shown by the prayer of the Pharisee---Lk 18:9-14.
"I am not like the rest, that sinner, etc."
Judging self by what others are.--- *by this standard we could do anything.*
 2. We should measure ourselves by the Lord---2 Cor 10:12,13
and not by others as the Pharisee did.
 3. They had elevated themselves above all others.
 4. *Many churches act as others set - without regard to divine authority.*
2. ARROGANT AND HAUGHTY ---Mk 2:15,16; Lk 7:36-50 *Jesus is NOT commending sin!*
 1. None other as exalted as they.
 2. *Many in the church - just look at us - how we are growing, what we are doing.*
3. RELIGIOUS TO BE SEEN OF MEN---Mt 23:5; Mt 6:2,5
 1. That which God accepts is not done to please men.
 2. Many today do acts in religion to be seen of men, they want others to know what they are doing. *TV Evangelists*
 3. Want to be listed among those who send to this or to that.
 4. *On one side or the other -*
4. SAID AND DID NOT---Mt 23:3.
 1. God never has accepted word worship, in the absence of obedience. --- *Lk 2:14, - "Shew ye good" (vs 18)*
 2. Mt 7:21-27.
 3. It takes a life of obedience. *complete submission.*
5. MADE THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD OF NONE EFFECT BY THEIR TRADITION.
 1. Mt 15:1-6---Had elevated their own ideas as necessary.
 2. The traditions of man have today cast aside the will of God.

3. A great amount of the trouble in the religious world is the result of this problem.
4. Within the church this problem exists, doing things which has always been done. *No more authority than "we have done this like this for years."*
6. DREW NEAR TO THE LORD WITH THE MOUTH, BUT THE HEART WAS FAR FROM HIM---Mt 15:7,8
 1. cf. number 4.
 2. Unless the heart is converted, nothing gained.
 3. Rom 10:10 - *Believe with the heart*
7. TAUGHT FOR DOCTRINES THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN---Mt 15:2.
 1. Much of the religious division is the result of this.
 2. Creeds, manuals, etc, come from this.
 3. *This has made great inroads into the church in recent days*
 4. *"We have no scriptures, but we will do it."*
8. LOVED TITLES AND THE CHIEF SEATS IN THE SYNAGOGUE.
 1. Mt 23:6-8, cf. 3.
 2. They liked the praise of men, and forgot about what God thought---Jn 12:42-43.
 3. Many today love the titles of men, in fact are offended if you refuse to call them by their religious titles.
9. WOULD NOT ENTER THEMSELVES, NOR ALLOW OTHERS TO ENTER.
 1. Mt 23:13-
 2. Many will not do the will of the Lord, and they revel in keeping others from doing his will.
10. REJECTED THE COUNSEL OF GOD, BEING NOT BAPTIZED---Lk 7:30.
 1. They loved their own position better than doing that which God commanded.
 2. NOTE: Baptism is a part of the counsel of God.
 3. If you reject baptism, you too will be rejecting the counsel of God.